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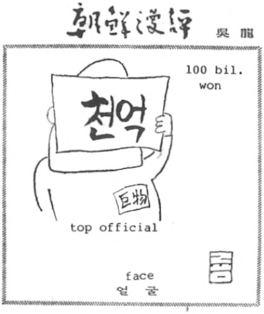
Top Officials of Chon Junta Resign Over Multi-Million Dollar Financial Scandal



(Choson Ilbo, May 19)

Family members of Gen. Chon and his wife and top officials of his junta resigned over their involvement in the multi-million dollar financial scandal which surfaced on May 2 as six leading companies were bilked of millions of dollars.

The scandal, already seriously sapping the political effectiveness of the strongman Chon, ranks among the largest of the nature in local history. The exposure came two years after Gen. Chon's takeover, compared with 13 years which a similar incident took to hit the Pak junta in 1974.

Some officials are already under arrest. Gen. Chon tried to build up his reputation as "Mr. Clean" as leader of the ruling Democratic Justice Party whose name sounds ironic.

They were led by:

- Chon's real brother, Chon Gyong Hwan, secretary general of the central headquarters of the new-community movement;
- Chon's wife Li Sun Ja's uncle Li Gyu Gwang, president of the south Korean mining promotion corporation, now under arrest;
- Her father Li Gyu Dong, president of the sout Korean eldery people's association and brother of Li Ghu Gwang;
- Gen. Kwon Jong Dal, No. 3 man in the ruling Democratic Justice Party as its all-powerful secretary general;
- His relatives by marriage, Li Chol Hi and his wife, Chang Yong Ja, directly involved in the scandal and now under arrest.

On May 21, the cabinet underwent a partial reshuffle, with the premier, vice-premier and finance minister all retained. Key figures of the ruling party were replaced.

The resignation and replacement of officials suggest the gravity of the situation, though the move is simply intended to enable Gen. Chon to tide over the crisis.

The money involved promissory notes valued at 711.1 billion won (¥230 billion or $988 million), according to what the local prosecutor-general termed "a final report on the investigation" into the scandal. At least 7.7 billion won is believed to have been diverted for political slush funds.

Persistent rumors, however, are that a far greater amount has gone to the ruling party for its political funds. Despite repeated denials by the authorities, people still suspect the whereabouts of the money, most likely in the coffers of Gen. Chon and his junta.

The Korea Times in its May 13 issue wrote: "But it is doubtful if the woman could manipulate them by simple 'pretension,' without being actually supported by people in high positions." It also quoted the prosecution authorities should answer and clear up all the doubts being expressed by the public.

The loan scandal, touched off by Li Chol Hi and his wife Chang Yong Ja, covers a 14-month period February 1981 and April 1982. Li was former deputy director of the notorious KCIA under Pak.

The 14-month period during which the couple allegedly manipulated nearly $1 billion precisely is the same period in which Gen.

(Continued on page 8)

More Than 3,500 Kwangju People Observe 2nd Kwangju Anniversary, Demand Chon's Ouster

MORE THAN 5,000 KILLED IN KWANGJU, PYONGYANG CLAIMS

The second anniversary of the Kwangju Popular Uprising was marked by a Pyongyang mass rally on May 16 afternoon at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, the KCNA reported on May 17.

The uprising's anniversary day was also commemorated by the Korean community on May 16 as thousands of Korean residents demonstrated through main streets of Tokyo.

The Pyongyang raily was a scene of bitter attacks on the south Korean junta of Gen. Chon Du Hwan and its American masters. **(See Excerpts of Speech by Vice-Premier Chong Ju Gi on Page 4)**

Invited to the meeting were foreign diplomatic corps members in the city and visiting delegations of Korean residents in Japan.

The mass rally drew one vice-President Pak Sung Chul and leading officials of the Worker's Party and the Government. Taking with them the platform were university presidents, Heroes of the Republic, Labor Heroes and working people of the city.

The mass rally adopted a letter to the south Korean people.

In a new revelation vice-Premier Chon accused the Chon junta of having massacred more than 5,000 citizens in Kwangju and over 1,700 in Mokpo, Hwasun, Raju, Ryosu, Sunchon and other areas.

The vice-Premier said that more than 70,000 combat troops had been mobilized, equipped with over 150 tanks and armored vehicles, more than 100 artillery pieces, large helicopters and missiles.

These figures so far have not been known to the outside world. No source for the figures was given, however.

As for the significance of the Kwangju incident, the vice-Premier said:

"The Kwangju Popular Uprising powerfully demonstrated to the world that the south Korean people and students were not dead but alive.

"A massive riot, largest and fiercest in the modern history of the liberation struggle of the people in the East for democracy against despotic policy, it immensely stirred not only our people but the oppressed people of the world fighting for national independence."

More than 2,500 students and citizens commemorated the second anniversary of the Kwangju Uprising of May, 1980 on May 18 at the YWCA Hall of Kwangju City, it was reported.

The meeting was a memorial service for those who laid down their lives in the uprising, mainly organized by the local Christian Youth Council and the Presbytery.

The Rev. Ko Yong Gun of the south Korean Presbyterian Church, delivering a sermon, described the May 18 uprising as "a patriotic act of shedding martyr's blood."

Calling upon the people gathered at the memorial service to "take the example of our forerrunners who shed their blood two years ago," the minister attacked the Korean policy of the Reagan Administration and urged the resignation of the junta of Gen. Chon Du Hwan.

In reference to the 1988 Seoul Olympics, the Rev. Ko warned, "The nation will go bankrupt with additional 5 billion dollars debts if the Olympics should be staged."

The organizers, while criticizing the junta-sponsored rally for provincial people's unity as "a diversional move to blur the celebrations of the Kwangju Uprising and eliminate the popular memory of the incident," praised the spirit which motivated the fire at the American Cultural Center in Pusan.

After the rally which started at 3 PM, more than 1,000 participants, mostly Christians, students and bereaved families of the Kwangju victims, marched into city streets in groups, each consisted of ten people.

The demonstration lasted for one hour, during which some sat down on streets, and more than 200 riot police officers were rushed to the scene to suppress the demonstration.

At around 7:30 in the evening, a mass was held at Kwangju's Namdong Cathedral with more than 1,000 people participating, to mark the second anniversary of the Kwangju Uprising.

At the mass families of those detained over the Kwangju Uprising issued a joint statement, making a five-point demand for their release and a full disclosure of all the facts of the incident.

Seoul, Koryo Students Demand Ouster of Chon

Several hundred students of Seoul National University, the most prestigious school of south Korea, held an anti-Chon Du Hwan demonstration outside the campus on May 20, it was learned.

Slogan-chanting students, Tokyo's leading daily Mainichi Shimbun reported on May 21, shouted, "Away with Chon Du Hwan."

Their demand for ouster of Gen. Chon came at a time when public pressure was growing for his resignation over the snowballing financial scandal involving millions of dollars in private loans.

Family members of Gen. Chon and his wife already resigned in disgrace because of their involvement.

The Japanese daily reported, students who participated in a campus festival, went out of the school for a demonstration which began at around 7:30 in the afternoon.

A one-hour melee followed between the demonstrating students and heavily-armed riot police. An unknown number of students were taken into custody by police for torture and investigation..

Prior to the Seoul protest, the elite private school Koryo University in the city was a scene of student demonstrations on May 14.

Several students of the school scattered over 200 anti-Chon handbills from the 4th floor of the Student Hall at 12:55 in the PM.

These student acts were carried out in defiance of the junta which stations plainclothes men at universities and readies riot police for action which can reach any place within 30 minutes.

Korea-Cape Verde General Agreement on Economic, Scientific-Technological, Cultural Cooperation

A general agreement on economic, scientific-technological and cultural cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Cape Verde, was signed in Pyongyang on May 13. Follows the full text of the general agreement:

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Cape Verde agree as follows to further develop the friendly relations and strengthen cooperation in the domains of economy, science and technology and culture between the two countries on the principles of independence, equality, mutual benefit and non-interference in each other's internal affairs:

ARTICLE 1

The two high level contracting parties shall closely cooperate in the domains of economy, science and technology and culture in the interests of the peoples of the two countries.

ARTICLE 2

The economic, scientific-technological and cultural cooperation pointed to in the agreement has the following contents:

1. Cooperation in the domain of economy.
   - Cooperation in the domains of industry, agriculture and fisheries
   - Cooperation in the domain of housing and public construction
   - Cooperation in the domain of transport and communications
   - Cooperation in many other domains regarded necessary
2. Cooperation in the domains of science and technology and culture.
   - Exchange of experience and information in the domain of science and technology
   - Exchange of technicians, experts and trainees
   - Cooperation in the domains of education, sports and public health
   - Cooperation in the domains of the press, information and art

ARTICLE 3

Cooperation in the domains pointed to in Article 2 of the agreement shall be carried into practice in accordance with agreed documents to be concluded by the governments or relevant organs of the two sides.

ARTICLE 4

The two high level contracting parties shall use technical documents and informations offered by the other side only for the purposes pointed out in the agreement and shall not inform the third party of them without prior consent of the other side.

ARTICLE 5

The two high level contracting parties shall protect the personal safety of delegations, technicians, experts and trainees to be dispatched to each other within the framework of the agreement and they shall voluntarily observe the existing laws and regulations of the receiving country.

ARTICLE 6

The agreement shall be a foundation of separate agreed documents to be concluded by the governments of relevant organs of the two sides to attain objects of cooperation.

ARTICLE 7

The agreement shall remain valid for five years and unless any of the two contracting parties makes a written proposal to the other side to abrogate the agreement six months before its expiration, its term will be automatically renewed for another five years.

ARTICLE 8

The two high level contracting parties may partially or wholly change or revise the agreement through a written agreement.

ARTICLE 9

The agreement shall come into force as from the date of its signing.

Signed in Pyongyang on May 13, 1982, and done in duplicate in Korean and French, both texts being equally authentic.

Kim Il Sung
President
Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Aristides Pereira
President
Republic of Cape Verde

Speech of President Aristides Pereira

A party and government delegation of the Republic of Cape Verde headed by President Aristides Pereira visited the DPRK from May 9 to 13 at the invitation of President Kim Il Sung.

During the 5-day stay, the delegation visited the various parts of the country.

The DPRK and Cape Verde signed a general agreement on economic, scientific-technological and cultural cooperation.

On May 9, President Kim Il Sung arranged a banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall in Pyongyang in honor of President Aristides Pereira where both Presidents made speeches.

Follows the full text of the speech of President Aristides Pereira:

Respected Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean people,
Korean people,
Respected guests,
Your Excellencies and mesdames,
Comrades,

Our visit to the country of Juche at the kind invitation of Comrade Kim Il Sung is a great encouragement to us and offers an opportunity of learning from your precious experience.

The glorious and very warm welcome accorded us by you with the mobilization of enthusiastic citizens of the capital, showed the high prestige of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and a high and noble form of highly organised hospitality which can be seen only in a socialist society.

We received unforgettable deep impressions from the warm welcome accorded us by tens of thousands of working people.

This welcome excellently expressing the rich feelings of the militant and valiant Korean people vividly showed how beautiful the bonds of unity linking our two parties and two peoples are.

Through you I extend the deepest thanks and greetings of myself and my wife and members of the delegation to citizens of Pyongyang.

Respected Comrade President Kim Il Sung,

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea which had been lying on debris due to the war ravage and the division up until the mid 1950's has today become a developed socialist country where the people are living, enjoying boundless well-being.

Our visit to this country makes us see for ourselves how wisely a people with a history spanning thousands of years and a national pride and their Peculiar culture could be led to turn their spiritual heritage into a great material and mental wealth.

From the moment of our setting foot on the soil of Korea we clearly realized the unbounded respect and reverence of your people for the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung who has led the Korean people along the road of prosperity through thorny bushes and made them a shining model for all the Third World peoples today.

Some time ago the Korean people, together with many revolutionary leaders and friends and sympathizers of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from all continents, celebrated the 70th birthday of Comrade Kim Il Sung.

The celebrations demonstrated what a great creative power the Juche idea has and what a great hope and trust it arouses in a country where amazing successes have been registered in the domain of science and technology and her people are aspiring after independence, collectivist spirit and great idea of harmony and unity.

The Juche idea is not an idea limited within the bounds of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea but an idea synthesizing the principle of universal significance for the peoples of all countries who want to live in a society where independence is defended and man is made the most valuable being.

How can a society free from exploitation of man by man be built without the creative application of the principle of independence in thinking and practice, the principle of raising the value of man to the highest plane and creating a spiritual and material wealth with the mobilization of collective strength of the people?

How can a free society be built without the masses becoming master?

Our African Party for Independence of Cape Verde, the party inheriting the most glorious traditions of the revolutionary struggle organized and led by the great Amilcar Cabral, our respected immortal leader, is thoroughly embodying in its domestic and foreign spheres the principle of independence in thinking and practice, the principle of organizing and mobilizing the masses, first of all, for the implementation of the programme of progressive and fundamental transformation of the society of Cape Verde, the principle of arousing the spiritual and moral enthusiasm of the Cape Verde people through labor and the principle of ardently loving and defending the heritage, the cornerstone of the country, and the country.

The first and foremost task facing our party members selected on our strict principle is to actively mobilize with their example the broad popular masses for the state management and the carrying out of tasks for its reconstruction.

In our revolutionary national democratic state built in Cape Verde under the guidance of our party, the masses are embraced in public mass organizations and widely participate in the discussions for deciding on the vast national tasks, with the result that the proportion of their direct participation in the exercise of power is growing day by day.

Our party, the guiding force of social liberation, is exercising power given by the people and testifying to the correctness of its activities through the trust of the masses.

Over the past seven years since independence the Cape Verde people under the guidance of the party, their vanguard, have effected fundamental and decisive revolutionary changes in economic and social spheres, particularly in enhancing the consciousness of the masses, strengthening unity and raising their position as an independent people externally.

Living in a small country consisting of scattered and arid islands, our people had been subjected to poverty and benightedness under the rule of the Portuguese colonialists for centuries and ceaselessly struggled for existence.

Although the colonial occupationists tried to exterminate us, our strength increased.

Today we are confronted with a task to lay a solid foundation of the country.

The future Republic of Cape Verde we desire should be built by our own efforts by making a correct and effective use of means of production of our people and the aid of solidarity given by the international community helpful to us.

Comrade Kim Il Sung,

What is particularly inspiring and moving for us is that though the DPRK and the Republic of Cape Verde are separated by a distance of thousands of kilometers from each other and are differing in history, society and culture, we find the similarity of revolutionary changes effected in the two countries in their guiding principles.

Respected Comrade Kim Il Sung,

Though we are far away from your country, we have followed with great interest and sympathy the development of the Korean revolution made under your wise guidance and the historic steps taken by the leading organs of your country.

The decision of the Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea on the peaceful reunification of Korea is widely known to the whole world, Africa in particular.

This is another proof of the judiciousness and vitality of the Juche idea and a priceless contribution to peace.

We hope that the division of Korea, the most barbaric crime against the Korean people, will be peacefully brought to an end through mutual concord on the basis of a deep love for the entire mankind and in the direction of wisely and actively removing the new root cause of the tension over the past ten years.

We believe that those who still think they can sacrifice mankind for their ambition for domination will face a powerful resistance of the people and yield without fail to the desire of the Korean people, thousands of times stronger than them, who want peace, material, spiritual and moral progress and the equitable and just relations among the peoples and countries.

By expressing their determination to achieve the peaceful reunification of the country, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people under your wise guidance once again demonstrated that they have a noble humanitarian spirit.

Respected Comrade Kim Il Sung,

We are convinced that through the current visit the solidarity between the DPRK and the Republic of Cape Verde, between the Cape Verde and Korean peoples and between their revolutionary vanguards is a very precious one which the peoples, governments and parties of our two countries should defend and safeguard.

Therefore, I propose a toast to the steady strengthening of solidarity between the two countries,

To the development and efflorescence of the Juche idea, to peaceful reunification of Korea,

To the great Korean people guided by Your Excellency and

To the good health and long life of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the Korean people.

Thank you.

Building of Socialist Economy and Its Development (9)

III. Socialist Transformation of Economy

(Continued from the No.1,086 issue of The People's Korea)

Characteristic Features of Agricultural Cooperativization

The cooperativization of agriculture was characterized by certain features.

First: It was carried out prior to the socialist industrialization of the national economy. After the 1945 liberation, even though the material and technical bases of agriculture were rapidly strengthened with the strong backing of the government, they were still on a low level. Between 1953 and 1956 farm machine lending stations increased from 14 to 48 and tractors from 570 to 2,072. However, the farmland that was cultivated by machines, reached only 200,000 *chongbo* (one *chongbo* is approximately one hectare) even in 1956.

Comparing with the levels in East European countries, this figure was quite low.

Some East European countries started cooperativization in 1948 and completed in the main by the end of 1950s or early 1960. They attained a fairly high level in the mechanization of agriculture.

In 1955, Rumania came to have 30,000 tractors and 1,500 combined harvesters. The farmland that was cultivated by machines served by machine and tractor stations, accounted for 77 percent of the total cultivated land on cooperative farms.

In Bulgaria, about 18,000 tractors were operated in rural areas in 1955, and about 62.4 percent of farm work was mechanized that year.

However, in China mechanization was not accelerated rapidly. The land cultivated by machines represented only 10 percent of the total farmland even after the completion of cooperativization in 1962.

The DPRK's success in cooperativization even without developed industrial support, exploded the old theory – the theory of industrialization prior to a successful agricultural cooperativization.

The second characteristic feature was that not only was it carried out at a fast speed, but also third-form societies were mainly organized from the beginning.

The DPRK started cooperativization 4-5 years later than East European countries and 1-2 years later than China. However, it completed it in only 4-5 years at a surprising high speed.

Czechoslovakia completed cooperativization in 1949-1960, the GDR 1952-1961, Hungary 1950-1961, Bulgaria 1945-1958 and Rumania 1949-1962. In Poland and Yugoslavia, about 80 percent of the total farmland is still privately owned today. However, China completed it in a short period of about 4 years (1953-1956).

The TABLE II clearly shows that in the DPRK from the outset of cooperativization, many third-form cooperative societies were formed. Other socialist countries followed different ways.

Since the Soviet Union had nationalized land before it started agricultural cooperativization, it mainly took the altel form in order to thoroughly collectivize farmland. (In the altel form, land and means of production were socialized, but private side-businesses were allowed for peasants.) There was also the commune form which socialized all the property of peasants including small farm machines and cattle. From the beginning, it was carried out on a high level, which is a point similar to the cooperativization in the DPRK.

China started cooperativization in the form of collectives, by organizing mutual-aid agricultural production societies, then establishing first-stage agricultural production cooperative societies and then forming developed agricultural production cooperatives. The form of societies was gradually raised.

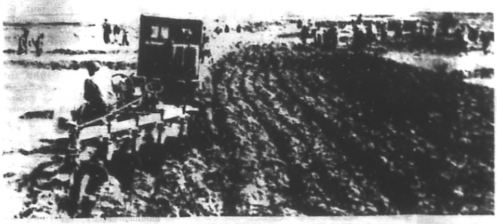
In East Europe, cooperativization started with the form of low-level societies such as mutual-benefit production societies in which peasants used farm machines in common and cultivated land jointly. Then, middle-level societies were organized in which peasants were provided with income after deduction of land rents. They were developed to the kolkhoz form which cooperativized all the means of production including land, farm machines, cattle, seeds and agricultural facilities, and organized joint labor and distributed income according to work days after deducting production costs. It also allowed peasants to own side-businesses. However, since some high-level societies were organized from the beginning, not a few peasants opposed cooperativization. This delayed their movements.

The successes the DPRK attained in cooperativization were largely related to the situation in which preconditions for cooperativization were fully prepared during the Korean War. Among them, particularly important were the fairly high political enthusiasm of the peasants and favorable class relations. The relations of landownership which were established as a result of the Land Reform, and the scale of farming were also of special significance.

After the Land Reform, not only the sale, purchase, mortgaging and leasing of land were prohibited but also the land that landowners could not cultivate, was placed under the direct control of the government. In 1953 this kind of land reached 530,000 *chongbo* or one-third of the total farmland of the country. This represented a form of transition to a socialist development of agriculture. This provided a powerful condition for agricultural cooperativization.

The characteristic features of landholdings of peasants are also worthy of note. Peasants owned a roughly equal area of land. In July 1953, an average per-household landholding was only 1.8 *chongbo*. Households with less than one *chongbo* of land accounted for 32.9 percent of the total rural households, and those with 1-2 *chongbo* of land 41.7 percent, those with 2-3 *chongbo* of land 19.1 percent and those with over 3 *chongbo* of land 6.3 percent. Most peasants had land less than 2 *chongbo*. Their small landholdings made peasants actively participate in cooperativization and because of their near equality in landholdings, they did not worry much about shares as cooperative society members. So, they, from the beginning, were able to form third-form cooperative societies.

Even though the agricultural cooperativization started from the ruins after the Korean War, it was completed in only 5 years. This resulted in establishing in rural areas a thorough socialist economic form with cooperative societies as the core–the base of socialist construction of agriculture.



The first plowing on the Namchil Cooperative Farm, South Pyongan Province, after its formation.

Growth Rate of Main Agricultural Products with 100 for 1953

	1956	1957	1958
Grain	124	138	159
Tobacco	600	650	930
Meat	114	193	382
Cocoons	128	178	268
Fruits	118	287	336

Source: Kim Han Ju, "Victory in Agricultural Cooperativization in the DPRK," WPK Press, Pyongyang

TABLE I

Development of Agricultural Cooperative Societies

	TOTAL	2nd-Form Societies/%	3rd-Form Societies/%
1953	806	--	--
1954	10,098	21.5	78.5
1955	12,132	7.8	92.2
1956	15,825	2.5	97.5
1957	16,032	1.2	98.8
Aug. 1958	13,309	0	100

Source: Ditto

TABLE II

2. Socialist Transformation of Privately-Owned Commerce And Industries

Necessity of Socialist Transformation

Together with agricultural cooperativization, socialization of privately-owned commerce and industries arose as the important task at the beginning of the period of transition to socialist economic construction in the DPRK.

Main industries were nationalized in the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution or shortly after liberation. However, at that time only the property of imperialists and comprador capitalists was nationalized. National capitalists were left intact.

So, privately-owned handicraft industries and capitalist commerce still remained in cities. These businesses were common to each other in that they privately owned means of production, and were small in scale. However, while handicraft industries were operated by their owners themselves without exploitating others, capitalist merchants and industrialists were, more or less, engaged in speculation, using hired labor for surplus value.

These privately-owned commerce and industries had played a certain role in raising people's living standards and strengthening economic relations between cities and rural areas, after the liberation when light industrial products were not sufficiently produced. They developed to a certain level during the period of democratic reforms. In 1946, the capitalist economic sector occupied 23.2 percent of the total industrial output, and 96.5 percent of the total distributed retail goods were handled by private commerce.

However, even though their activities were restricted in the socialist economy, privately-owned commerce and industries which were allowed private ownership of the means of production provided fertile soil for the growth of capitalist economic retail. In addition, they interfered in and complicated the development of the planned national economy.

For instance, they evaded taxes, engaged in speculation, made undue profits and changed prices in some areas where state-owned commerce did not reach. These acts were hindrances to the development of the socialist national economy. They had to be socialized. (To be continued)

Vice-Premier Chong Stresses Kwangju's Implications

Vice-Premier Chong Jun Gi of the DPRK Administration Council on May 16 made a speech at the Grand Pyongyang Mass Rally held at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium in commemoration of the second anniversary of the Kwangju Popular Uprising in May 1980.

He said in his speech:

The Kwangju Popular Uprising in May 1980 was a just national salvation struggle for democracy which was waged in protest against the criminal moves of the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Du Hwan clique, their stooge, to revive the fascist *"yusin"* dictatorial system and a heroic resistance demonstrating the firm determination and unyielding fighting spirit of the south Korean people aspiring after democracy and peaceful reunification of the country.

This heroic resistance which began with a demonstration of students of Chonnam University on May 18, 1980, was joined not only by patriotic citizens of Kwangju but by workers, peasants and people of other strata residing around the city to bring their number to more than 300,000.

Even under the worst situation in which they were surrounded on all sides and the supply of drinking water and food was completely cut, they kept Kwangju under their complete control for 10 days, valiantly repulsing the desperate offensive of the enemy, with planes, tanks and armoured vehicles.

Traitor Chon Du Hwan, the truculent murderer, besieged Kwangju and launched a bloodbath by mobilising 70,000-strong puppet army forces including the notorious paratroopers, over 150 tanks and armoured vehicles, more than 100 artillery pieces, large helicopters and missiles.

In this sanguinary massacre by the Chon Du Hwan fascist gang, 5,000 people were killed and more than 14,000 injured in a few days, in Kwangju and over 1,700 people were slaughtered or injured in Mokpo, Hwasun, Raju, Ryosu, Sunchon and other areas.

Massacre committed by the Chon Du Hwan clique in Kwangju was the most brutal slaughter of fellow countrymen unprecedented in history in bestiality and savageness and was a most shuddering butchery of the nation to be cursed and denounced down through generations.

Heroic struggle of the Kwangju people was a massive uprising participated in by broad segments of people including students, workers, peasants, intellectuals and religionists and a national salvation resistance of highest form against fascism and for democracy in which the armed enemy was resisted with arms.

The Kwangju Popular Uprising powerfully demonstrated to the world that the south Korean students and people were not dead but alive, dealt a heavy blow at the colonial military fascist rule of U.S. imperialism and its stooge the Chon Du Hwan clique and shook its foundation violently.

A massive riot, largest and fiercest in the modern history of the liberation struggle of the people in the East for democracy against despotic policy, it immensely stirred not only our people but the oppressed people of the world fighting for national independence and *chajusong*.

The speaker denounced the Chon Du Hwan fascist clique who established an unheard-of military fascist system after covering Kwangju, the city of resistance, with corpses of fellow countrymen and turning south Korea into a theatre of fascism and is now maintaining the most truculent fascist repressive rule.

He continued:

The United States is to blame for its total disregard of the desire of the popular masses for democracy and reunification and for tragic situation in south Korea today.

In the name of the entire people in the northern half of the Republic, I pungently denounce with bitter national indignation the Chon Du Hwan gang of murderers who committed a shocking massacre in Kwangju, the city of resistance, and is getting overheated in fascism and division, treachery and war moves and the U.S. imperialist aggressors who zealously encourage it.

Desire for democracy and reunification cried for by students and people in Kwangju at the top of their voices two years ago is today burning more fiercely among the south Korean people and raging more furiously in all parts of south Korea, turning into a flame of the anti-U.S., anti-Chon Du Hwan struggle.

The struggle of the south Korean students and people against fascism and for democracy is developing in depth in combination with the struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggressors.

In the name of the entire people in the northern half of the country, I extend warm compatriotic greetings to south Korean students and people of all walks of life who are waging the staunch anti-U.S., anti-fascist struggle for democracy, not yielding to the Chon Du Hwan clique's harsh fascist suppression, and extend full support to their patriotic struggle.

It is the most urgent task facing the south Korean people today to sweep away the tyrannic military fascist rule and realise the democratization of society in south Korea.

The south Korean people and students should bury the military fascist rule once and for all and set up a genuine democratic government on its grave.

The workers, peasants, students, believers and other strata of people in south Korea should unite closely under the banner of national salvation against fascism and for democracy and expand and develop the already started anti-fascist struggle and fight on undauntedly till they will have overthrown the Chon Du Hwan fascist clique.

The south Korean people should force the U.S. imperialist aggressor troops out of south Korea and put an end to their colonial enslavement policy and interference in other's internal affairs by energetically waging a massive struggle against U.S. imperialism occupying a half of the country by force and instigating its puppets to fascism and division, treachery and war.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors must go back to their den without delay along with their aggressor troops and destruction weapons including nuclear weapons, before they are forced out of south Korea by the massive anti-U.S. struggle of the enraged south Korean people.

(Continued on page 5)

Kwangju Uprising: Yesterday & Today

By Cho Sang Ok
Special to The People's Korea

A banner on the front of the car which reads "Dismember Chon Du Hwan!" clearly indicates public indignation at the tyrannical rule of Gen. Chon.

The popular uprising in Kwangju, capital of South Cholla Province in May 1980, can be safely called the biggest and fiercest of the sort in the modern history of the Eastern people.

In demand for freedom and democracy, local citizens maintained control over their city for ten days, keeping heavily-armed divisions of the martial-law command supported by the American forces.

The incident which ended in a genocide of peaceful demonstrators (over 14,000 casualties including some 5,000 death) by martial-law troops, illustrated socio-political contradictions of the junta of Gen. Chon Du Hwan. It was a watershed, provoking long-term anti-American sentiments, which have grown unprecedented in the 100 years of south Korean-American relationships.

Faked-up Causes

Just after the Kwangju incident, the junta of Gen. Chon announced in its interim report that the dissident leader Mr. Kim Dae Jung was a behind-the-scene mastermind of the affair. The following were cited as possible reasons: 1) Kwangju was Kim Dae Jung's home town; 2) traditional anti-Seoul sentiments of Cholla people; and 3) resentment at Kyongsang Provinces–provincial rivalry. The massacre was attributed to what the junta termed "ultra-left anti-government elements" led by Mr. Kim and provincialism.

Yet, this was a total distortion of facts. The Kwangju Uprising took place while the dissident leader was in prison, kept incommunicado and harshly tortured by martial-law forces. Did they deliberately allow him to establish contacts with the Kwangju citizens and watch his and their movements for their own political reasons?

The home base of Kim Dae Jung was Mokpo. In the preceding months, demonstrations and protest movements started in Seoul, Pusan and Masan, both cities in South Kyongsang Province and Taegu, the North Kyongsang provincial capital. These cities are traditional dissident strongholds. The Pusan-Masan Uprising in 1979 led to the death of the late strongman Pak Jung Hi.

Slogans and demands which emerged from the uprising echoed those of Seoul citizens and people in other parts of south Korea and clearly indicated popular grievances at the despotic behavior of Gen. Chon Du Hwan–the immediate cause: The lifting of martial law; the resignation of the interim "regime"; the immediate execution of defense security commander Gen. Chon Du Hwan; and transfer of power to the democratic forces. The demonstrators shouted "Death to Chon Du Hwan!" and "Dismember Chon Du Hwan."

The big picture was the illegal resolve of Gen. Chon Du Hwan and his group to maintain the yusin "regime" inherited from his mentor Pak Jung Hi. On the small picture was the May 18 expansion of martial law to the whole of the country and mass arrests of political figures and student leaders. What prompted the Kwangju incident was atrocities against citizens and students by paratroopers sent by the martial-law command. Several hundred citizens including girl students were manhandled and bayoneted to death by the military. This anger was universal.

Paratroops ruthlessly kicking the arrested students

Anti-Americanism

The Kwangju incident produced a major change in the perception of the south Korean people of the Americans–anti-American sentiments surfaced to the point of a frequent appeal to violence.

The credibility of the United States as a guardian of democracy was lost. The Kwangju citizens and the people of south Korea were brought home that the U.S. is not on the side of democracy but is a patron of their oppressors, Gen. Chon and his group.

The Americans: 1) released south Korean troops from their command for deployment in suppressing the uprising; 2) dispatched their air force and naval units to help Gen. Chon's fight with its population; 3) refused to comply when Kwangju citizens called for U.S. intervention; and 4) had no reason to view south Korea ready for democracy.

Without American support, the Chon junta failed to suppress the uprising, because its forces were spread all over the country to deal with the situation. A new awareness is that the issue of democracy, human rights and reunification should be viewed in the context of American involvement, whose elimination, growingly they now believe, is essential for a democratic and free society.

For another thing, the once-powerful allegation about the "threat from the north" lost its sense and was found groundless. Pyongyang emerged not responsible for the killing of citizens. Despite the wide-spread allegations of its imminent attack, the DPRK did not cross the 38th Parallel to

(Continued on page 5)

Kwangju Uprising: Yesterday & Today

Youths on the captured cars shout: "Let's rise together rather than sit idle and die!"

(Continued from page 4)

strike the south. The martial-law troops, originally mobilized to crash the "northern agents" in Kwangju, killed none of them but the citizens. None was spotted after all.

Moreover, the so-called trust of the people was totally diminished; an ominous factor which they are now regarded as killers of fellow countrymen, will prove fatal to the future attempt of Gen. Chon to remain power.

For the first time in their history, the south Korean regular forces fired on the citizens and slaughtered many. From now on, the army will have little room for its role in the local political scene.

In the final analysis, Gen. Chon is the first American client to seize power with not killing fellows in the ruling quarters but massacring thousands of fellow countrymen. This is always overshadowed. The career of Gen. Chon which is certain to make his grip on power shortlived.

The Kwangju Uprising is a good measure of the extent of the popular aspirations for democracy and their determinated resistence to dictatorship.

Their relentless movement has reached the point of no return. The message is clear: the people are ready to risk their own lives and use force, if necessary. Anti-Americanism is now a key element in their drive for democracy. The U.S. has no more leverage over the local public.

What marked the uprising and became a source of future worry to the junta is its national and social nature—the amalgamation of students, workers and ordinary citizens. They distinguished the incident from the 1960 uprising, mainly a student affair.

In addition to the political factors, the economic plight was a major contributing factor: nearly 40 percent and the jobless people numbered several million, the real wages fell by a large margin. The woes of the working masses quadrupled.

Immediately before the Kwangju incident, miners of the Tongwon Coal Mine rose in a struggle for survival. Labor strikes became increasingly violent and frequent. Students of 68 of all the 85 universities and colleges participated in the protest actions. These demands focussed on the abolition of martial law and the resignation of Chon Du Hwan. In response to these movements, even Kim Jong Pil, associate of the slain strongman expressed support for these demands.

The preceding events and the Kwangju Uprising could have restored democracy and put south Korea on a right path to the negotiated reunification with the north. In this event, south Korea would have become free and stop functioning as a forward base in American strategy in Asia.

This partly explains why President Reagan invited Gen. Chon to his White House as the first guest after his successful takeover. In his February 4 speech in Washington, Gen. Chon said, "South Korea is the bulwark of the defense of the United States and Japan."

One-Year Old "Fifth Republic"

With open blessings from Reagan, Gen. Chon tried to rebuild the image of south Korea as a "stable state" and perpetuate himself in power. South Korea, he hoped, would be rehabilitated from the many years of an international pariah.

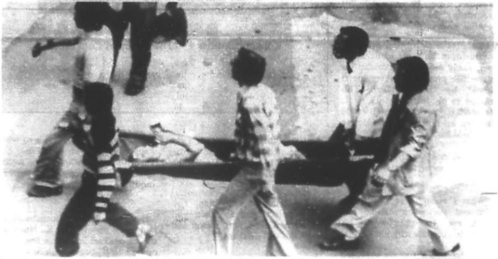
Against this background, series of the so-called flexible measures was taken: The lifting of the curfew, the easing of student dress code and the authorization of professional baseball games.

Then, what Chon termed "amnesty" was repeated, without releasing Mr. Kim Dae Jung and other democratic dissidents from prison. Seoul was awarded the venue for the 1988 Olympic Games.

Anyhow, these steps were taken to present south Korea under Chon as the "Fifth Republic".

However, south Korea is far from "free and democratic." South Korea retains all necessary trappings of a police state—the draconic fascist laws including the constitution, the national security law, the law on assembly and demonstration, and the social protection law.

From the beginning, however, the "Fifth Republic" has been too flawed to be stabilized by "flexible measures". No bright prospect has appeared for the future of the "Fifth Republic."



The Kwangju people faced paratroopers boldly with concerted action. Photo: A wounded man is carried on a stretcher.

Black Beret paratroopers' brutalities drive citizens to resort to arms.

With some initial success but subsequent bankruptcy, the late Pak made an appeal to the public. Nevertheless, inheriting the recession from him, Gen. Chon already bungled in the industrial realignment involving machines and cars.

No experts see any sign of the south Korean economy recovering from the three consecutive years of deep recession—its international balance of payments position getting worse and soaring international interest rates.

Of late, the Japanese buyers are withdrawing from south Korea mainly due to skyrocketing prices of commodities.

With political rights restricted, but enough food, clothing and shelter, people may be obedient. The current economic woes, if they worsen further, will drive the people to the breaking point. The economic struggle, coupled with those for political freedom, may galvanize the democratic movement.

Recent Trends in Democratic Movement

What aggravates the crisis of the economy is the decision to host the 1988 Olympics. The local resources have already been drained, though the games requires a vast amount of fund.

The post-Kwangju democratic struggle might be characterized as strong anti-Americanism, a 180-degree shift.

The growing anti-American feelings have been received by the Americans with alarm: "Now with the burning of the American Cultural Center in Pusan on March 18, the United States is confronted with anti-Americanism unparalleled in the 100 years since it opened diplomatic relations with Korea." (Donald L. Ranard, former Korea desk chief of the State Department, The New York Times on Apr. 26)

—The arson at the U.S. Cultural Center in Pusan (Mar. 18)

—The anti-U.S. statement published by the Korean Christian Action Organization (Apr. 15)

—The burning of a Stars and Stripes by students of Kangwon National Univ. (Apr. 22)

Especially, the burning of a Star-Spangled Banner flag was unprecedented in 30 years of extensive American presence. It is the first time that the recall of the two top U.S. officials, U.S. ambassador to Seoul Walker and U.S. commander in Seoul Wickham, was urged by Church people, once believed highly pro-American. The recent campus demands and slogans include such as "Yankee Go Home!" and Christian ministers have given anti-dictatorial, anti-U.S. lectures.

So far, local dictators including Syngman Rhee, were overthrown but the same political and economic woes remain unchanged with the same Americans entrenched.

However, perception of the Americans as their enemy has transformed the south Korean *people's democratization movement*.

The second specific feature is that the Christians have taken an open role in the anti-U.S. struggle.

Christian hostility has become apparent as the Chon junta arrested on Apr. 5 Rev. Choe Gi Sik for his alleged role in harboring students involved in the fire at the U.S. diplomatic facility.

Arrest of over 6,000 people after the attack on the ACC angered the 6 million Christians, from liberal to conservative. Quite few can successfully challenge the Christian community.

Anti-Americanism, the thorough denial of democratic rights and the chronic economic ills, have come far earlier than anticipated, steadily loosening the grip of Gen. Chon on power, a phenomenon which was not noticed during the Syngman Rhee and Pak Jung Hi eras.

These are potential sources of new Kwangju uprisings. The origins of the May 1980 Kwangju remain in place, far from lessened, despite it was brutally oppressed. In this sense, the Kwangju incident may be safely described as a mere prelude to bigger and more Kwangjus of national impact.

Vice-Premier's Speech

(Continued from page 4)

The entire Koreans at home and abroad who love the country and nation and aspire after reunification should unite firmly under the banner of reunification and national salvation, irrespective of ideology, political view and affiliation, and actively fight to smash the "two Koreas" plot of the splittists within and without and establish an independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral confederal state.

S. Korean Monthly "Sin Tong-A"

Arirang Life at Colliery (6)

(Continued from the No. 1,092 issue of The People's Korea)

Pig

In October, heavily wooded mountains, which had obstructed the view of the sky, became crimson. Trees were dark-red due to coal dust. However, clear water was flowing in the valley, such as was hardly seen in a coal mine.

Miners went on a picnic twice a year, in spring and autumn.

In the spring of that year, an allowance of 200,000 *won* (one dollar is approximately 705 *won*) were given to each group for a picnic. But we just drank a cup of *makkolri* (unrefined wine). K, a delegate from our group, didn't explain how the rest of the money was used.

My fellow workers gathered during work or recess and criticized K. But they never made a protest directly to K because they knew that once K had been a gangster in the S district.

One worker suggested that we press for an answer from K concerning the rest of the money. He said that we could take up the picnic money for last spring, though it might be different to take up the picnic allowance of last year. Then I answered;

"Only a few months have passed since I came here. It would be impudent for me to make a critical comment about my senior. Others may think that I am showing off my courage."

After that, the issue became hazy. Then autumn came around again.

Anyway, it so happened that we went on an autumn picnic. We went to the valley full of dark-red trees.

At the lower part of a little stream, workers began to kill a pig we bought for 10,000 won.

Pak said that he used to kill pigs in the past whenever big events were held in his village. He struck the pigs in the past whenever big events were held in his village. He struck the pig on the head with an axe. But he missed the fatal point. The pig struggled, with his grunting echoing throughout the valley. When a nylon rope got loose, which put the pig on leash, the pig got incontrollable.

Those who were around the pig, ran away and others who were looking at the pig from far away, gathered.

"Hi, Pak, you boasted as if you were a butcher. But how come you got into this mess? "

"How silly you are that you got scared!"

K, a delegate from our group, said he would show how to kill a pig and approached the pig. But he was kicked with the hind feet of the pig and fell on his backside. I was unable to watch the scene calmly and take a step forward.

"Bring me a stick."

Yun with a pockmarked face, who always boasted of his strength, foaming at the mouth, approached me slowly with a 2-meter long stick.

"Kick the head of the pig! "

Yun struck the pig on the head with all his strength.

The pig jumped and fell down.

"Hold the pig down!"

I quickly grasped the other end of the stick, which Yun had. Yun sensed what I wanted him to do and joined me to hold the pig down. The stick was bent. The pig desperately writhed.

Pak came near us again. He looked firmly determined to kill the pig without fail this time. He spit on his palms and rubbed his hands. He gripped the stick again. He looked pale and stiff.

Pak managed to save face. The pig collapsed. I threw the stick and said to Pak.

"Pak, you killed all the pigs in your village before, didn't you?"

"Yeah, ..."

A big laughter echoed in the valley.

Quarrel with K

Workers sat in rings here and there and began to drink liquor, as they were unable to wait for the pork to be steamed.

We members of the Chongsim-hoe held a place near a big rock and quaffed low-class distilled wine, helping ourselves to it.

After a while, pork was served. I couldn't eat the pork as the pig which I killed rose before my mind. But others ate the pork, saying it tasted good. Some might have loose bowels or vomit and suffer without fail.

Some, apparently drank, began to sing songs. Some played a solo show, and some began to dance. Some started quarreling swinging a broken bottle of liquor.

We felt merry. When one of our members began to sing the song "The Way Along a Stone Wall," someone patted me on the shoulder.

Looking back, I found K there, a representative of the group.

"I want to have a talk with you."

His face was flushed with wine.

"What's the matter? Can't we have a talk later?"

"It's better for me to talk with you now."

I stood up. K crossed the mountain stream and took me to an empty plot.

"Let's sit down and talk."

K sat on a stone. As I sat beside him, he offered me a cigarette.

"I don't know what you do think to hear what I am going to tell you now. I suppose Mr. Li organized the Chongsim-hoe and became its president, in anticipation of an election next year (an election for delegates from the district branch of the miners' union)."

I was amazed at what I heard and was unable to speak at once. K seemed to be greatly irritated by the Chongsim-hoe organized in the previous month.

I was one of its promoters. After working in the coal mine for five months, I felt the life of miners was dreary and that they were living without any purpose in life. Then I began to think it's a good idea to organize a get-together meeting.

Just at the time, Han Yong Tae, who was the president of Ujong-hoe, a social group of the B group, and my former schoolmate, said when we drank together:

"Does your group have even a get-together meeting," he said in ridicule. "Why don't you organize a social gathering. Let's have a soccer game on a holiday. How about putting liquor on a game?"

Then I talked about the matter with young workers in their 20s. They promptly agreed to my proposal. At first I thought the members would be some 10. But eventually, 20 joined our get-together group.

In the election of the president I refused to be a president. However, many members persuaded me to be the president, saying that I should be the president. This seemed to be dissatisfactory to K. He seemed to think that I would threaten his position in an election to be held half a year later.

"K, you misunderstand me, don't you? You seem to misunderstand me."

"What I mean to say is that Li organized the Chongshim-hoe to attack me. In other words he intends to compete with me."

"Ha, ha, ha,.. You are supposed to represent our co-workers for the sake of their rights and interests. I didn't think that you were such a coward."

"Don't underestimate me."

K took a defiant attitude and shouted with the veins visible on his throat.

"Underestimate? Hi, K, it is none of your business whether we organized a get-together group or something. It's a matter you need not interfere in."

I also took a stiff attitude.

"Are you going to fight me? How many month is it since you came here? How can you take an arrogant attitude when you are a newcomer? You forget that I am your senior, don't you? I have worked here for 5 years at the third coal mine."

At these words, anger rose inside me and exploded.

"What did you say? Even if I worked here a day, I would say the same thing. Am I to do your bidding because you have worked here for five years and I for several months? Do you mean that I have to be a puppet dancing as your spirit prompts."

"You rascal! "

K tried to strike me with a fist. I made a dodge and held his fist. I screwed his arm hard and threw him down. He tumbled down.

"K, I tell you something. You should select persons when you beat men without any reason and force your will on them."

K picked a stone and tried to fight me. But before he was fully prepared for the fight, he met my counterattack, and fell again.

Other workers began to surround us. I spat and pushed my way through the crowd.

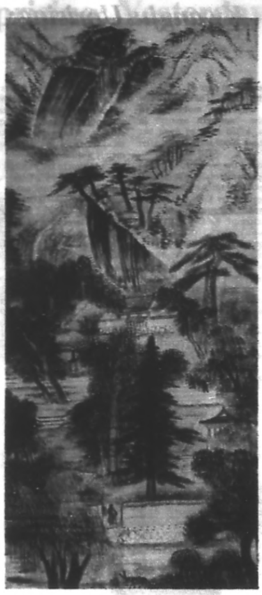
Mun, a faceman, persistently asked me about the details of what happened between K and me. So, I had to tell the whole story, which immediately passed from mouth to mouth.

Members of the Chongshim-hoe said they had to kill K. Most of the co-workers except a few who cringed to K, began to show a friendly feeling toward me.

One of our members suggested I run in the election. All members clapped their hands in approval of his suggestion.

I silently quaffed liquor.

(To be continued)



Korean Paintings "The Valley of Cool Breeze"

By Chong Son

Tug-of-War

Tug-of-war is a traditional game popular with the Korean peasants.

In this game two teams pull against each other at opposite ends of a rope and the stronger puller wins the game.

It was most popular south of central Korea. In some localities the game was held in January or August by the lunar calendar. In intervillage contests all villagers participated, strong men pulling the rope and children and old folks cheering them up. Peasant music was also played. Like this, tug-of-war was a jolly and merry mass game.

Today it is widespread among the Korean youth, children and working people as a national game.

It is important in the game for contestants to concentrate all their strength. They stand in order of stature, hold the rope with both hands, lean their bodies at some 45 degrees and begin to pull against each other at command.

The rope should be thick and strong enough to grasp and pull.

Tug-of-war is a mass game which a lot of people can play together at any time and in any place. It is good for cultivating collectivism and for physical training.

All-Japan Korean Athletic Meeting Held in Tokyo

An all-Japan Korean athletic festival was held on May 6 and 7 in commemoration of the 70th birthday of President Kim Il Sung.

The sports meeting was part of colorful events organized by the Korean residents in Japan to celebrate President's birthday. Many gifts were sent to Pyongyang, including 23 industrial plants.

A number of books were published, receptions and musical presentations were organized in many parts of the island country.

The sports meeting took place at the Tokyo Korean High School Stadium and at 21 other stadiums in Tokyo, Chiba, Saitama and Kanagawa prefectures. They included Komazawa Stadium, one of the biggest stadiums in Japan.

Participating were about 400 teams, some 5,000 amateur players and students from the organizations of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) in various parts of the Japanese archipelago and from Korean national schools at various levels.

The events were 9; volleyball, football, track and field events, table-tennis, baseball, softball, basketball, judo and golf.

The athletic meeting, perhaps the first of the nature ever organized by overseas compatriots in celebration of any given leader's birthday, tells the extent of the esteem in which the 700,000 Korean residents in Japan hold President Kim Il Sung as their father image.

For the resident Koreans in the island country, President Kim Il Sung is a source of boundless national pride and inspiration.

This is potent evidence of the leadership appeal of the President to the Korean population in Japan, a country which refuses to recognize his Government in deference to Washington and the junta in Seoul.

Chongryun has 49 local headquarters, 310 chapters and 1,800 subchapters.

It has not only its systematic organization but also 19 corporations and 14 horizontal member organizations comprising youth, women, businessmen, scientists, teachers, writers, artists or other experts.

Schools at various levels are: 1 university, 12 high schools, 56 middle schools and 85 primary schools, 66 Korean kindergartens and nurseries also.

Including Korean cultural centers in Tokyo and Osaka, there are many cultural houses, art theatres, hospitals and gymnasiums.

Newspapers and magazines are: periodicals in Korean, Japanese English, French and Spanish. These foreign-language periodicals reach more than 140 countries all over the world.

Korean credit associations with 161 offices are under Chongryun. The Korea-Japan Export-Import Firm, the Tonghae Firm and others are also run.

Golf tournament

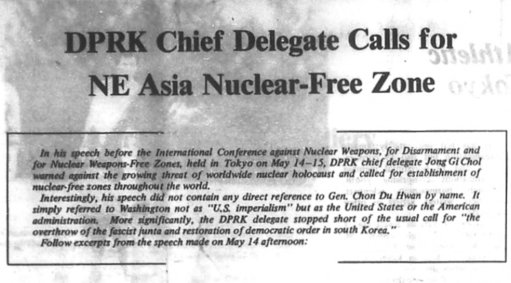
Marching Korean kindergarteners

Korean students cheering their team

▲ Baseball game

62
28
21
24
17
26

Girl runners ▶



DPRK Chief Delegate Calls for NE Asia Nuclear-Free Zone

In his speech before the International Conference against Nuclear Weapons, for Disarmament and for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones, held in Tokyo on May 14–15, DPRK chief delegate Jong Gi Chol warned against the growing threat of worldwide nuclear holocaust and called for establishment of nuclear-free zones throughout the world.

Interestingly, his speech did not contain any direct reference to Gen. Chon Du Hwan by name. It simply referred to Washington not as "U.S. imperialism" but as the United States or the American administration. More significantly, the DPRK delegate stopped short of the usual call for "the overthrow of the fascist junta and restoration of democratic order in south Korea."

Follow excerpts from the speech made on May 14 afternoon:

The International Conference against Nuclear Weapons, for Disarmament and for Nuclear Weapons-Free Zones will make a great contribution to the struggle of the world's good-minded people to defend peace in Asia and the rest of the world at a time when the danger of nuclear war is growing.

Growing Danger of Nuclear War

As all of you here admit, the present international situation is extremely complicated and fragile.

The U.S. administration is vigorously expanding its arms buildup in a bid to rebuild a powerful America and assure the predominance of American power.

Openly circulating the nuclear war scenario, the U.S. is concentrating all the energies on the manufacture of nuclear warheads and their vehicles of delivery, including neutron bombs, B-1 bombers and MX missiles.

They have already mapped out their so-called strategic plan for arms buildup and in particular, for improvement of their mass destructive weapons.

It is no accidental that many foreign news media have reported that no preceding American government worked out such a gigantic nuclear arms buildup projects as those of the Reagan administration, after World War II.

As a result of arms race and ceaseless production of nuclear weapons, the total number of nuclear weapons of various types stockpiled in different parts of the world are one million times as destructive as atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. These nuclear weapons pose a real threat of thermo nuclear holocaust to the whole of mankind.

History tells war inevitably results from arms buildup.

The United States regards Northeast Asia, in particular, the Korean Peninsula and Japanese Islands as crucial to its global strategy.

Therefore, the United States stations a large number of its aggressor troops in these areas and maintains numerous military bases, among them nuclear bases.

Under these circumstances, Northeast Asia today is one of the most dangerous potential nuclear flashpoints.

Today, we are confronted with an extremely responsible and very important task of removing the threat of war and preserving peace.

The Korean people call for the establishment of a nuclear-free, peace zone throughout the world in order to prevent the danger of nuclear war and guarantee peace and security as the imperialists are trying to start a nuclear war.

We also call for a total ban on production, test–not partial limitation–and use of all nuclear weapons and the destruction of the already-manufactured nuclear weapons.

NE Asian Nuclear-Free Zone

As our people maintain a principled stand of resolutely opposing war and the use of nuclear weapons, we are making primary efforts to convert the Korean Peninsula, among other areas, into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

As a matter of common knowledge, in the northern half of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, there is no single nuclear weapon.

We have no intention whatsoever to acquire any nuclear weapons.

However, the United States deploys some 1,000 nuclear weapons in south Korea.

Not content with this, both the U.S. and the south Korean authorities are intent on bringing into south Korea neutron bombs and theatre nuclear missiles. They have already completed a contingency plan for a preemptive nuclear attack on the north.

According to its plan, the U.S. is constantly conducting nuclear missile firing and nuclear bomb dropping exercises as shown in a number of long-term war exercises including "Team Spirit."

The south Korean military fascists are accelerating the development of their own nuclear weapons.

As a result, what prevails on the Korean Peninsula is a danger of new war, nuclear war breaking out at any moment.

In order to prevent nuclear war on the Korean Peninsula, it is essential for the U.S. armed forces to withdraw from south Korea at once, taking with them all their mass destructive weapons, including nuclear weapons.

The Korean people once again demand the establishment of a nuclear-free, peace zone in the Northeast Asian region which is a forward defence area in the Asian strategy of the U.S.

On the occasion of the Japan Socialist Party Chairman Mr. Asukata Ichio's visit to our country in March last year, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Japan Socialist Party published a joint declaration proposing the conversion of the Northeast Asian region comprising the Korean Peninsula and Japan into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

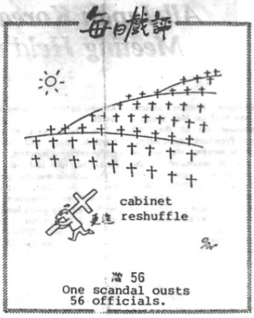
This declaration reflects the noble resolve of our two Parties to disband aggressive military blocs, remove foreign military bases, troops and nuclear weapons from this part of Asia and to bring a lasting peace and security.

Taking this opportunity, we affirm the support of the Korean people for the energetic campaign being launched by the Japan Socialist Party on the basis of three non-nuclear principles to oppose nuclear war, achieve disarmament and create nuclear-free zones.

We also positively support the just struggle of the people to establish nuclear-free, peace zones in the Middle East, Africa, Latin America and Europe.

Our belief is that the world's people who champion peace will be able to deter the threat of nuclear war successfully and preserve peace and security of the world, if they launch the vigorous campaign in close unity to oppose nuclear war, support disarmament and mark out nuclear-free, peace zones in many parts of the world.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people, guided by the principles of independence, friendship and peace, will unite closer with the peace-loving people of the world in order to frustrate the imperialist maneuvres for aggression and war and safeguard peace and security.



(Taegu Maeil Shinmun, Apr. 30)

(Continued from page 1)

Chon won the fraudualent presidential election and has been in office as chief executive of the so-called fifth republic.

In February last year, one report suggests that Li Sun Ja, the wife of Gen. Chon had cashed 600 million won promissory notes through Chang Yong Ja. The notes were issued by the Kongyong Construction Company, and then handed over to Kwon Jong Dal, secretary general of the ruling party. Eventually the notes found their way into Gen. Chon's wife. The construction company was bankrupt because of the scandal. It was reported that the wife of the strongman used the money for political purposes and for their own private purposes.

What add to the growing suspicion about the direct role of the strongman Gen. Chon and his wife are the repeated attempts to cover up and suppress the incident.

According to The Asian Wall Street Journal, dated May 21, the culture-information ministry's public news media coordinating office on May 18 told newspaper editors that they downplay the case. The attempt followed earlier bids to keep newspapers careful in covering it.

The daily got information from an unidentified senior local journalist. The newspaper also referred to an article in The Korea Times that successive contradictory announcements by prosecutors created "a credibility gap because the second reversed the major contents of the first and the third contradicted the second."

But the population lost confidence in the junta. Virtually nobody believes the denial that the strongman and his wife got much of the questionable money.

The latest scandal to hit the junta of Gen. Chon Du Hwan is the worst in the recent series of problems.

–the March 18 fire at the American Cultural Center in Pusan;

–the March controversy over rice imports from the United States;

–the April 8 subway construction accident in Seoul which killed 10 people;

–the April 15 anti-American statement of Christians;

–the April 26 Uiryong massacre of villagers by a police officer.

Against his background, public pressure is growing for Gen. Chon to quit to take responsibility for all the problems. Those who have been dismissed are simply fall guys.

South Korean students, Christian and former Opposition leaders all unite in their strong call for the resignation of Gen. Chon. Kim Yong Sam, leader of the former New Democratic Party, declared, "Mr. Chon's policy has failed. He must go."

Details of May 17 Firing: MAC Secretaries Meeting

During two hours on May 17 morning, the south Korean army fired more than 12,000 rounds of large and small firearms into the northern side across the Military Demacration Line.

Making this accusation at Panmunjom, DPRK senior colonel Kim Ryon Gi called the American counterpart to account for it, the Korean Central News Agency reported on May 18.

The charge was made at the 465th meeting of secretaries of the DPRK and American sides to the Military Armistice Commission, held on May 18.

The DPRK senior colonel, the KCNA reported, lodged a strongly-worded protest with the American officer over the grave armed provocation committed by the south Korean army, which he branded as "A wanton violation of the Armistice Agreement" signed on July 27, 1953.

The northern officer charged the American side with letting the south Koreans launch such grave provocative acts.

The KCNA quoted him as saying, "at around 10:50 on May 17, four south Korean puppet army soldiers armed with automatic rifles intruded more than 100 meters into our portion of the Demilitarized Zone without prior notice along the rails near the Military Demarcation Line marker No. 0565 south of Pyongang in the central sector of the front."

Almost at the same time, "the south Korean puppet army began firing rifles and cannons at once into the area of our side from its four posts south of the MDL markers Nos. 0560, 0572, 0577 and 0579," senior colonel Kim stated.

The barrage stopped at around 12:10, he said, adding that the bullets and shells totalled over 12,000– more than 10 recoilless gun shells, 4,100 large calibre machine gun bullets and 8,000 M-16 automatic rifles."

The intensity of the barrage might start "an armed clash" across the DMZ but the DPRK did not respond in kind, the DPRK officer declared.

This "most crude violation of the armistice agreement," senior colonel Kim observed, "represented an extremely reckless military provocation," which was "not a chance incident" but was intended as part of series of acts to "start a new war in Korea."

The meetings of secretaries are held along the meetings of the armistice commission. The former are handled by officers of colonel rank while the latter are represented by major generals. Both sessions are held at the request of either side, namely, the DPRK or the United States.

South Korean officers attend the meetings as observers and have no right to speak and simply listen and see. The south Koreans did not sign the 1953 armistice agreement.

The south Korean armed forces are under the American command through a number of agreements, first under the UN command and second under the U.S.-south Korean combined forces command. Both are under American generals.

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